

What is claimed is:

1. A copyright protection method for adding copy control information to an information signal in association with contents which are
5 protected under copyright, the method comprising the processes of:

adding attributive information representing the attribution of a predetermined apparatus to the information signal when the information signal is propagated via the apparatus; and

10 controlling the recording of the information signal on the basis of the copy control information and the attributive information.

2. The copyright protection method according to claim 1, wherein the attributive information is added by a reproduction apparatus for reproducing the information signal in association with the contents
15 from a recording medium.

3. The copyright protection method according to claim 2, wherein the process of controlling the recording of the information signal is a process to forbid the recording the information signal in the case that
20 the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the attributive information represents the attribution of the reproduction apparatus.

4. A reproducing method for reproducing an information signal in
25 association with contents, which are protected under copyright, from a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the method comprising the processes of:

adding the attributive information representing the attribution of a reproduction apparatus to the information signal when the information signal is reproduced; and

outputting the information signal to the exterior.

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5. A reproduction apparatus for reproducing an information signal in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, from a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the apparatus comprising:

10 an adding device for adding attributive information representing the attribution of a reproduction apparatus to the information signal when the information signal is reproduced; and

an outputting device for outputting the information signal to the exterior.

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6. The reproduction apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the adding device replaces a portion of a digital signal in association with the contents with data in accordance with a predetermined pattern in association with the attributive information.

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7. A recording method for recording an information signal in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, in a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the method comprising the processes of:

25 discriminating the copy control information of the information signal and the attributive information representing a predetermined apparatus, via which the information signal is propagated; and

controlling the recording of the information signal on the basis of the discrimination result.

8. The recording method according to claim 7, wherein the process of controlling the recording of the information signal is a process to forbid the recording of the information signal in association with the contents in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the attributive information represents the attribution of the reproduction apparatus.

9. A recording apparatus for recording an information signal in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, in a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the apparatus comprising:

a discriminating device for discriminating the copy control information of the information signal and attributive information representing a predetermined apparatus, via which the information signal is propagated; and

a controlling device for controlling the recording of the information signal on the basis of the discrimination result.

10. The recording apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the controlling device forbids the recording of the information signal in association with the contents in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the attributive information represents the attribution of a reproduction apparatus.

11. A copyright protection method for adding copy control information to an information signal in association with contents which are protected under copyright, the method comprising the processes of:

5 performing an error correction by replacing information at a recording position set in advance with a predetermined attributive information when an information signal, in which error correction codes when the information is replaced with the predetermined attributive information are added, is reproduced from a recording medium; and

10 controlling the recording and the reproduction of the information signal on the basis of the copy control information and the predetermined attributive information.

12. The copyright protection method according to claim 11, wherein
15 the predetermined attributive information has a size exceeding the range of correction capability of the error correction.

13. The copyright protection method according to claim 11, wherein
20 the process of controlling the recording and the reproduction of the information signal is a process to forbid the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is detected in the recording position set in advance.

25 14. The copyright protection method according to claim 12, wherein the process of controlling the recording and the reproduction of the

information signal is a process to forbid the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is detected in the recording position set in advance.

15. A reproducing method for reproducing an information signal in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, from a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the method comprising the processes of:

performing an error correction by replacing information at a recording position set in advance with a predetermined attributive information when an information signal, in which error correction codes when the information is replaced with the predetermined attributive information are added, is reproduced from a recording medium; and outputting a reproduction signal to the exterior.

16. The reproducing method according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined attributive information has a size exceeding the range of correction capability of the error correction.

17. A reproduction apparatus for reproducing copy control information in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, from a recording medium in accordance with the copy control information, the apparatus comprising:

an error correction performing device for performing an error correction by replacing information at a recording position set in

advance with a predetermined attributive information when an information signal, in which error correction codes when the information is replaced with the predetermined attributive information are added, is reproduced from a recording medium; and

5 an outputting device for outputting a reproduction signal to the exterior.

10 18. The reproduction apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the predetermined attributive information has a size exceeding the range of correction capability of the error correction.

15 19. A recording method for recording an information signal in association with contents, which are protected under copyright, in a recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the method comprising the processes of:

discriminating the copy control information of the information signal and predetermined attributive information;

controlling the recording of the information signal on the basis of the discrimination result; and

20 adding error correction codes to the information signal, the error correction codes being ones when information at a recording position set in advance is replaced with the predetermined attributive information.

25 20. The recording method according to claim 19, wherein the predetermined attributive information has a size exceeding the range of

correction capability of an error correction using the error correction codes.

21. The recording method according to claim 19, wherein the process
5 of controlling the recording of the information signal is a process to
forbid the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy
control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the
contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is
detected in the recording position set in advance.

10 22. The recording method according to claim 20, wherein the process
of controlling the recording of the information signal is a process to
forbid the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy
control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the
15 contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is
detected in the recording position set in advance.

23. A recording apparatus for recording an information signal in
association with contents, which are protected under copyright, in a
20 recording medium in accordance with copy control information, the
apparatus comprising:

a discriminating device for discriminating the copy control
information of the information signal and predetermined attributive
information;

25 a controlling device for controlling the recording of the
information signal on the basis of the discrimination result; and

an adding device for adding error correction codes to the information signal, the error correction codes being ones when information at a recording position set in advance is replaced with the predetermined attributive information.

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24. The recording apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the predetermined attributive information has a size exceeding the range of correction capability of an error correction using the error correction codes.

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25. The recording apparatus according to claim 23, wherein the controlling device forbids the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is detected in the recording position set in advance.

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26. The recording apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the controlling device forbids the recording of the information signal in the case that the copy control information represents a code for allowing the copy of the contents only once and the predetermined attributive information is detected in the recording position set in advance.

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